

## **Ethical Action in Challenging Times**

### **Program Description**

From baseball fields to boardrooms, the news is filled with examples of lapses in ethical conduct. Many of today's scandals were years in the making. How did they get this far without anyone standing up to say, "This is wrong."? Could well-intentioned people, acting with moral courage, have affected the course of events before they got out of hand?

This program is intended to assist participants in becoming change agents in behalf of ethical principles. Participants will learn about moral courage and exemplars in ethical action drawn from a variety of fields. After a review of concepts and opportunities for ethical action, participants will discuss complex case dilemmas to determine options for addressing vexing ethics challenges and how to employ tools for effective "ethical activism".

### **Learning Objectives**

1. Participants will learn about moral courage, role models for moral courage, and the barriers to acting ethically.
2. Participants will learn eight tools that can assist change agents in standing up for ethical principles.
3. Participants will learn, through discussion, options for ethical decisions in an array of cases and how the eight tools might assist in enacting those decisions.
4. Participants will know about resources for further information on ethics.

### **Target Audience**

Clinicians, case managers, social workers, counselors, psychiatrists, psychologists, educators, advocates, health and human service practitioners

### **Contact Hours**

2.0 – 6.0 hours. Longer sessions allow for greater depth and discussion.

### **Program Agenda**

Available upon request.

### **Faculty**

Dr. Kim Strom is the Smith P. Theimann, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Ethics and Professional Practice at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work. Dr. Strom teaches in the areas of direct practice, education, and human resource management. Her scholarly interests involve ethics, moral courage, and social work education. She is the former chair of the National Association of Social Workers' National Committee on Inquiry and is active in training, consultation and research on ethics and social work practice. She has written over 60 articles, monographs and chapters on ethics and practice. She is the author of *Straight Talk about Professional Ethics* and *The Ethics of Practice with Minors: High Stakes and Hard Choices* and the forthcoming text *Cultivating Courage*. Dr. Strom-Gottfried is also the co-author of the texts *Best of Boards*, *Direct Social Work Practice* and *Teaching Social Work Values and Ethics: A Curriculum Resource*. Dr. Strom also held an appointment as the UNC Institute for the Arts and Humanities Associate

Director for the Academic Leadership Program, which helps prepare and support the next generation of academic leaders. Currently, she serves as Principal Investigator of the UNC School of Social Work behavioral healthcare contract, and has been recently appointed by the chancellor to serve as Director of the UNC - Chapel Hill Office of Ethics Education and Policy Management.